

World Vegetable Center field report

Inviolate Dominick1, Ritha Luoga1

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[www.africa-rising.net](http://www.africa-rising.net)

The [Africa Research In Sustainable Intensification for the Next Generation](http://africa-rising.net/) (Africa RISING) program comprises three research-in-development projects supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) as part of the U.S. Government’s Feed the Future initiative.

Through action research and development partnerships, Africa RISING is creating opportunities for smallholder farm households to move out of hunger and poverty through sustainably intensified farming systems that improve food, nutrition, and income security, particularly for women and children, and conserve or enhance the natural resource base.

The three regional projects are led by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (in West Africa and East and Southern Africa) and the International Livestock Research Institute (in the Ethiopian Highlands). The International Food Policy Research Institute leads the program’s monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment.

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# Name of traveler(s)

1. Inviolate Dominick
2. Ritha Luoga
3. Gilbert Mushi
4. Nicodemus Nade

## Purpose of trip

The purpose of this trip was centered into two areas;

1. The first was to monitor data collection in demo plots in 1st generation villages.
2. The second was to conduct Farmer field days.

The objectives of the trip were accomplished in collaboration between WorldVeg, Kilimo Endelevu field technical staff, District Government representatives, Extension Agents, farmers, and local leaders in selected 8 years 1 village of Karatu District.

## Country/countries visited

* Tanzania

## Dates of trip

8-13 & 16-18 December 2020

## Budget source

Africa RISING ESA project, 10000175-13

# List of people met during the trip and their contact details

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Title** | **Contact** |
| Anatoli | Field Officer - RECODA |  |
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# Important results/information gathered during the trip

Monitor and backstopping on Data collection (8-13 December 2020)

* Follow-up and monitoring data collection was carried out in 64 demo plots located in 1st generation 8 villages, namely Chemchem, Rhotia- Kainam, Bashay, Bugeri, Changarawe, Kambi ya Simba, Slahhamo, and G’lambo villages.
* The data were collected from demo trials with improved practices and control/regular farmer practice, each with three vegetable types: tomato (variety-Tanya), Ethiopian mustard (variety-Rungwe), and nightshade (variety-Nduruma)
* Data on the scaling of validated technologies were collected in1st generation 8 villages

Farmer field Days (16-18 December)

* Two days On-farm farmer field days were organized in Slahhamo village and at farmer field expert in using drip irrigation in Karatu to share experiences, deliver information, and demonstrate on-site several validated best techniques regarding vegetables fruit production for improved nutrition, healthy, and wealth. Technologies/innovations demonstrated/showcase include healthy seedlings raised from good quality seeds, grafting of fruits, preparation and use of natural pesticides, drip irrigation, and different types of home vegetable garden such as keyhole garden. About 127 people participated in the event, out of which 49% were women.

The following activities were conducted during the events;

* Visiting demonstration plot/garden and farmer fields to see the adoption progress led by Worldveg in collaboration with IDP/KE and government representatives to increase the adoption of improved vegetable varieties and good Agriculture practices (GAP) in project sites.
* Overall progress summary regarding partnership with WorldVeg/KE regarding Vegetable production best Scaling Activities in Karatu (achievements vs targets in the respective district) by WorldVeg representative in collaboration with Government liaison person and IDP/KE field technical staff
* Farmer trainers and extension agents gave a short explanation about symptoms and effects of malnutrition, the importance of vegetables as part of a balanced diet, and how can be used as one of the cheap and affordable corrective measures for malnutrition food safety and hygiene and relationship between plant health and human health with support from Worldveg participating team.
* Cook shows and tasting of the prepared vegetables, including mishikaki made from Vegetables, Pumpkin leaves with peanut, vegetable stew, a pancake made from extra nutritious sweet potato (Viazi lishe), and pumpkin fruit stiff porridge, to mention a few. The recipes prepared were eaten together with fruits as lunch, and the participants appreciated the test and promised to apply the knowledge and skills gained from the events back home and train others to increase consumption/nutrition, healthy, and wealth at family level and community at large.
* Questions and answers regarding vegetable production, preparation and nutritional values (participants’ vs project team and other experts) were addressed accordingly.
* Journalists from DW Radio Swahili voice of German were invited to cover the field day events and interview some farmers on their views regarding the situation before and after project intervention.
* During these field days, Extension personnel and farmer trainer representatives with support from the Worldveg team presented each practice/ technique and offered some written information to few people based on the request.

# Suggestions for follow-up

* Data entry, cleaning, and analysis
* Collect yield data on the scaling of innovations facilitated by the Worldveg Team in 2nd generation villages
* Prepare and organize farmer-field days in new villages.
* Liaise with local leaders (faith leaders) to sensitize their groups.
* Prepare and give the private sector feedback about choice and preference of distributed vegetable seed to farmers to enhance market linkage.
* Liaise with village extension officers, IDP/KE field officers, and other local leaders to establish keyhole home garden as part of scaling through sensitization and promotion to the community.
* Plan for an exchange visit to allow farmers to learn and experience sharing from each other.

# Photos or other supporting forms





**Figure 1**. From top: A Farmer (in Blue trousers) explaining how to use drip irrigation in his tomato in Karatu.



**Figure 2.** Left, farmers demonstrate grafting in fruits; left discussions and reflections on farmer field events on going in Slahhamo village in Karatu.



**Figure 3.** Showcase of recipe prepared and testing ongoing at Slahhamo Village during field day.